

S/N 08/881,393

PATENT

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06/01/00IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Applicant:  | FODSTAD ET AL.  | Examiner:       | C. CHIN     |
| Serial No.: | 08/881,393  | Group Art Unit: | 1641        |
| Filed:      | JUNE 24, 1997   | Docket No.:     | 7885.33USD1 |
| Title:      | METHOD FOR DETECTION OF SPECIFIC TARGET CELLS IN<br>SPECIALIZED OR MIXED CELL POPULATION AND SOLUTIONS<br>CONTAINING MIXED CELL POPULATIONS |                 |             |

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on May 15, 2000.

By: 

Name: John J. Gresens

AMENDMENT


Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:


Responsive to the Official Action mailed February 14, 2000, Applicants submit the following amendment and remarks. Re-examination and reconsideration of the application in light of the amendment and remarks below is respectfully requested.

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows.

1.  (Amended) A method for detecting and quantitating a specific living target cell in a cell suspension of a mixed cell population at a sensitivity of one target cell per 100 or more total cells, in a fluid system containing a mixed cell population, or in a single cell suspension prepared from a solid tissue, with the exception of normal and malignant hematopoietic cells in blood and bone marrow, the method comprising the steps of:

a. coating paramagnetic particles or beads with an antibody or antibody fragment directed against a membrane structure specifically expressed on the target-cell and not on a non-target-cell in the cell mixture;

  
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